

Brief Biographical Summary

Richard L. Beadles

Richard L. Beadles currently serves as Director of the Virginia Rail Policy Institute ("VRPI"), a private, not-for-profit, activity dedicated to enhancing public understanding and perception of inter-city rail as a realistic, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly, mode of transportation for both people and cargo. VRPI's mission is to get the facts, suggest public policy positions and initiatives, and encourage rational transportation planning and development.

Dick Beadles is an observer, critic, and advocate in the fields of transportation, urban development, and the environment. A native of the Richmond area, Beadles has lived and worked in Virginia for most of his life. A former president and chief executive officer of the old Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad, and later of CSX Realty, the former real estate and development unit of CSX Corporation, Beadles went on to head up a real estate advisory firm, once known as MGT Realty Advisors.

Beadles' interest and participation in transportation activities and issues dates back to the mid-1950's. From transportation, he evolved into real estate and urban development. He was one of several people at RF&P associated, years ago, with the successful development of a major portion of Crystal City on former rail property in Arlington, VA. Immersed in the land use and transportation issues of Northern Virginia in the period 1965-1995, Beadles came to more keenly appreciate the linkage between land development and transportation challenges, and to see the opportunities for better development and use of rail corridors.

Dick Beadles is a champion of rail, both freight and passenger services, as well as public transportation.

One of the founders of the Virginia High Speed Rail Development Committee, t/a Virginians for High Speed Rail, a non-profit educational and advocacy group, Beadles served as its executive director, on purely a volunteer basis, from the group's inception in 1996 until March of 2001. He continues to serve as a VHSR board member. In addition, Beadles is currently active in the leadership of Richmond Friends of RAIL.

Active in many community-based organizations, Beadles describes himself as frustrated would-be farmer, who continues to neglect his fields to pursue his passion for activism in matters pertaining to transportation, sustainable development and quality of life issues in Virginia, and elsewhere.

An alumnus of the old RPI, now the Business School, at Virginia Commonwealth University, Beadles has, in the past, served on the VCU Board of Visitors, and at one time chaired the VCU real estate program's external support group. Recently he completed terms of service as Chairman of the Port of Richmond Commission, and Chairman of the Westminster Canterbury Foundation. He also serves as a member of the board of the Science Museum of Virginia Foundation, and of the Historic Polegreen Church Foundation board.

Beadles resides in Goochland County, VA, with his wife. They have three daughters, and four grandchildren

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